the Link

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

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February 15, 1991

Former GSA president under suspicion for embezzlement

by Peter Matz

The former president of the Graduate Students' Association is under investigation by the university for allegedly running off with about $15,000 in student money.

Ansar Mohammed overpaid three monitors — hired to supervise the GSA's Mackay St. building and its computers — and then asked for most of the money back, said the GSA's acting president, P.S. Subramanya.

The extra cash was never put back into GSA accounts.

Mohammed, who recently moved and left no forwarding address, was not available for comment. The new telephone number provided by telephone operators is out of service.

"I came across the GSA's account payments in the mail from Concordia's payroll office," Subramanya said. "I found a number of large cheques made out to the monitors."

He said the largest single payment, given to then-monitor Jarjoorg George, was about $5,000. George, who now resides in Ottawa, could not be tracked down.

Chen Jirui, another former monitor, said that when confronted he admitted to Subramanya that Mohammed overpaid him on a few occasions. Jirui said Mohammed never told him in advance about the extra money.

"A few times he gave me about $647 through direct deposit without ever telling me. I couldn't take all the money for no reason," Jirui said. "After he asked for most of the money back, he told me not to tell anyone else."

Jurui said he was supposed to be paid about $5 per hour, but instead received $15 per hour, working an average of six hours per week. He said Mohammed told him the excess money was for another graduate student, Nouri Daud Shbih, also a monitor. Shbih quit last December.

"Mohammed said Shbih was an international student who needed the money," Juiri said.

But Shbih denied he gave any money back to Mohammed.

"I think what is going on is something personal between Mohammed and the (then) vice president (Subramanya)," Shbih said. "I got paid exactly for what I worked for."

Subramanya said other cheques totalling $4,400 were also made out to Rovindra Karunanayake, and there is no record of him working for the GSA as a monitor.

School records show Karunanayake was a Concordia student. But ex-wife Shirley Aloysius said he left for Calgary last January, after the couple's divorce. A Calgary telephone operator could not find his number in the directory.

Yet, Karunanayake's brother, Sarath, said Karunanayake has spent the last two years in Sri Lanka, and is expected to return some time this year.

Other allegations made by Subramanya include spending $1,300 for a party of 10 people at the GSA, which should have cost only about $300. Alchohol, which Subramanya paid for out of his own pocket, was served with vegetarian dishes.

The $1,300 cheque, signed by Mohammed, was made out to the restaurant Bombay Palace. Swinder Paul Singh, the restaurant's manager, said he remembers Mohammed but denied ever giving him back any money.

"The food came to about a thousand dollars. He (Mohammed) came and he paid," Singh said. "Then I just deposited the cheque."

But when a *Link* reporter called Bombay Palace asking for cost estimates, he was told that through its catering service, food for a group of six to 10 people would cost up to $20.

Mohammed also allegedly billed the GSA for long distance phone calls to Pakistan. All supporting documents and phone bills have been turned over to dean of students Brian Counihan.

Counihan would not release any of the documents, and would not say when and if he will decide on the case.

Subramanya said all the transactions he considers questionable and was able to track down were made since last June. Mohammed was GSA president since June 1989.

GSA treasurer Donna Keough said she was to start her position last June, but Mohammed wouldn't let her.

"He told me as a commerce student I wasn't in good standing with the GSA, because the Commerce Graduate Students' Association hadn't paid their GSA fees," Keough said.

After leaving several messages for Mohammed, she said he finally called her back in mid-October

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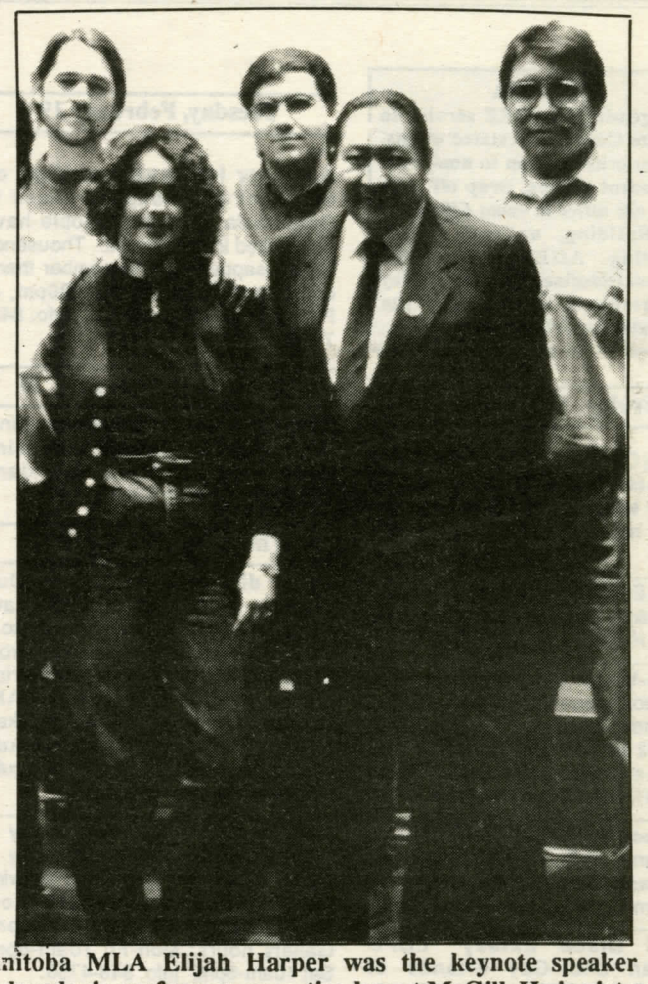

PHOTO BY SPANNER McNEIL

Manitoba MLA Elijah Harper was the keynote speaker at Wednesday's conference on native law at McGill. He is pictured above with members of Concordia's newly-formed First Nations group.

Students take part in continued peace effort

by Emily Moody

A member of the McGill Women's Union had her own way of condemning U.S. President George Bush's war decision.

Holding a sign that read "My bush makes love, not war," Amy Oneid was one of 300 protesters at Wednesday's anti-war rally that began at McGill's Roddick Gates.

Montreal area high schools, Cegeps and universities participated in the rally—organized by ANEEQ (l'Association Nationale des Etudiantes et Etudiants du Québec).

Starting at McGill's main entrance, the demonstrators passed by Concordia moving eastward down Ste. Catherine St. and ending at the Université de Montréal, where two speakers addressed the crowd.

A car equipped with a bull-horn led the march, demanding peace and playing music by Rhythm Activism, one song called *War is the Health of the State*. "Hey, hey, U.S.A., how many kids did you kill today?"

The chanting escalated when the crowd neared the Canadian Recruitement Centre on Ste. Catherine St., where some protesters climbed up to the windows to display their banners.

Chris Read, another McGill coalition member, said he thinks the war will drag on. "When bodies start coming home, things will change."

Norman Nawrocki, a Rhythm Activism member, called for citizen's support, "there is no money for welfare, housing, or employment insurance, but there is money for a war machine."

Michael Pintard, a member of McGill's Black Student Network, ended the protest with a speech at the Univerité de Montréal, saying Montreal must first learn to deal with the war against racism.

"What is our contribution to the war in Montreal?" Pintard asked. "We say we shed no blood for oil. What does this mean? Each day by trying to maximize our profits we are taking the same principles that our government is using to wage the war."

VA air quality out of control

by Tyrone Newhook

Concordia staff and students in the Visual Arts building aren't donning gas masks even though a breath of fresh air is needed there.

The Task Force on Air Quality, set up in November 1989 by the Central Advisory Health and Safety Committee, reported that the VA building is dry , dusty, filled with unpleasant odors, and lacks fresh air.

The report, submitted to the committee before last Christmas, showed results of a survey conducted last March of students, faculty and staff occupying the VA building.

Task force chairmen Daniel Cuillierrier and John Hall said in the report that many people surveyed complained of "symptoms of drowsiness, fatigue, light-headedness and headache" and other health problems.

Michael Reynolds, a third year Studio student, complained of headaches while painting. He said the air quality is "horrific" in some parts of the building.

"I think the filtering system is only filtering air in some areas," Reynolds said.

Yves Gaucher, a painting and drawing professor, agreed that the ventilation system is poor in some studios but "it's not very serious."

"We just have to learn to live with it," Gaucher said.

But unlike Gaucher, who only spends two days a week at the VA building, several full-time staff members at Student Affairs said air quality is a problem.

"We get all of the odors from workshops, paints, woodburning and fumes," said one staff member, who refused to give her name. "A lot of people in this office have been getting sick."

Hall said the survey pushed the task force to look for contamination sources.

The task force has recommended "necessary modifications to the existing (ventilation) system and equipment be expediated and completed as soon as possible."

The group also suggested the university implement a more scientific method of studying air quality by using consultants to find other contamination sources.

Hall added that consultants should take air measurements to determine "what is happening with the ventilation, how are (gases and fumes) getting into the system and what happens to the gas when it gets into the ventilation."

He said these tests should be done before next month because there will be more people in the building. But he doubted whether action will be taken this early.

"Health and safety is a high priority but it doesn't mean action is going to get done immediately," Hall said.

Shirley Maynes, assistant to vice-rector services Charles Giguère, said Giguère studied the task force's report and forwarded it to Catherine MacKenzie, the associate vice-rector services who is responsible for cost estimates. Giguère also received an air qual-

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AGENDA

The Agenda is a FREE service to publicize Concordia-ralated events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office in room 649 in the Hall Building, or mail it in, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 pm Friday for Tuesday's issue and 5 pm Wednesday for Friday's paper.

Friday, February 15

CASE (Concordia Association of Students of the Department of English) will hold a general assembly at 4pm, rm. P-205, 2020 Mackay (P-Annex).

ELSA (English Literature Students Association) General meeting: 4-7pm, in room H-505-1. Info: 848-7487.

Bi-The-Way: Bisexual women's Discussion group meets every Friday. All women welcome. This meeting, there will be an open discussion and business meeting. Info: Mon-Thurs 848-7431 and leave a message.

NDG Food Depot Dance-a-Thon! At the Church of St. Augustine, (corner Marcil and Cote St. Antoine) from 8pm-2am.

"Tribal Disco Extasy" LGFC (Lesbian and Gay Friends of Condordia) DANCE! In the cafeteria on the 7th floor of the Hall bldg. 9pm-2am, but arrive before 11pm or security won't let you in the building. Info: 848-7414.

Danse pour Salvador, organized by Salvaide. 8pm at La Playa, 4459 St. Laurent, crn. Mont-Royal. Donation of $5.00 Info: 597-1047.

The Carribean Students Union is having a wine and cheese as part of their Black History Month Celebration. Rm H-762, 5-7pm.

Video documentaries: Castro's Cuba, two opposing views. "The Uncompromising Revolution," and "Nobody Listened." at Mugshots, rm. H-651, 7pm. Presented by the Concordia Central America Committee.

Saturday, February 16

SOVEREIGNTY FOR FIRST NATIONS! SQ - RCMP OFF Mohawk Land! Demonstration, 1pm at Parc Lafontaine, crn. of Sherbrooke and Parc Lafontaine Ave., to be followed by a public meeting with Loran Thompson, 2:30pm, at 1601 Delorimier (Papineau metro). Organized by the Regroupement de solidarité avec les autochtones. Info: 598-2444.

Monday, February 18

Celebrating Black History Month: Studio D with Black Arts Productions and the Black Studies Centre are presenting films both today and on the 25th. Films include "Black Mother, Black Daughter," "Older, Stronger, and Wiser," "Unnatural Causes," and several other films. At the NFB Cinema, Complex Guy-Favreau, 200 René Lévesque W., at 7pm & 9pm. For complete programme info: 283-4755

Tuesday, February 19

Amnesty International Vigil on behalf of the disappearances in Guatemala. 100,000 people have been killed in Guatemala. Thousands have disappeared. Remember them, come to the vigil. 6:30-7:30pm, at Peel and de Maisonneuve. Info: 848-7410.

Wednesday, February 20

Rent Control Information evening. Sponsored by the NDG Housing Committee. 7:30pm, Monkland Centre, 4410 West Hill Ave.

Thursday, February 21

Panel discussion: Turning Out: Women, Prostitution, and the Law. Panelists include Marie Arrington, POWER, Vancouver; Sylvie Bergeron, Streetworker, Passages; Katherine Lippel, Professor of Law, UQAM; Susan Drummond, Social Worker, former Halifax sex trade worker. 11am-1pm, Moot Court, McGill faculty of Law, 3644 Peel Street.

Two art exhibitions open today at the Concordia Art Gallery: How to Read - Stan Denniston, and Drawing on the Permanent Collection. Vernissage from 7:30-10:30pm. Gallery hours: Mon-Fri 10am-8pm, Sat 10am-5pm. Info: 848-4750.

Friday, February 22

Black History Month Celebration: Black Film Festival! Film on Malcolm X and Harry Edward. 6-9pm, Mugshots, rm. H-651. Organized by the Carribean Students Union. Info: 848-3527.

Bi-the-Way: Bisexual women's discussion group meets every Friday. All women are welcome. This meeting's discussion topic will be Biphobia in ourselves and others. Info: leave message at 848-7431, Mon-Thurs.

International Women Students meeting, from 3-5pm at the Women's Centre, 2020 MacKay, downstairs. Info: 848-7431.

Monday, February 25

Jewish Cultural Display - throught to the 27th. The Concordia Jewish Students Union is proud to announce their annual Jewish Cultural display featuring an art display, food, entertainment, history, and much much more. 8am-10pm, at the mezzanine in the Hall building. Info: 848-7492.

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'a devastating hypocrisy'

It's going to be a cool summer if you're looking for a job

by Andy Riga

OTTAWA (CUP) -- Students will probably find the pickings slim when they hit the streets hunting for work this summer.

Unemployment soared to 17.4 per cent at the height of the 1982 recession for those aged 15 to 24. And forecasters, who are predicting a tough year ahead, warn the current deepening recession could leave students out in the cold again this summer.

"The summer job market is usually the first hit" during an economic downturn, said Mary Giamos of the University of Toronto's career centre.

Current job listings are not as numerous as in the past, Giamos said, although she noted that "it doesn't mean there aren't any jobs out there. It might mean employers don't have to advertise as much as previously because there are so many people looking for employment."

The spring and summer could be bleak for anybody looking for work. The national unemployment rate for all ages -- hovering at about 9 per cent late last year -- could reach 9.7 per cent this spring, according to the Conference Board of Canada, an independent research institute.

Even Youth Minister Marcel Danis, who announced this year's federal summer job program Feb. 4, warned students about employment prospects, although he seemed leery of using the R-word.

The government added $3 million to this year's Challenge program because "it is expected that job prospects may be somewhat more difficult in the current economic climate," Danis said at a news conference.

The extra cash will go into the SEED (Summer Employment/ Experience Development) program, which provides wage subsidies to employers creating summer jobs

Start pounding the pavement early, is the advice Silvia Sioufi, researcher for the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), is giving those who need summer work. And, she said, don't expect too much help from federal programs.

"They have added some money (to Challenge), but they haven't taken into account the recession and they're certainly not making up for the millions that have been cut from the program since it started in 1985," said Sioufi.

Back in 1985, $150 million went to SEED. "They've almost cut SEED in half over the past six years when the need has been constantly increasing," she said.

Liberal and New Democrat critics are also condemning the federal government for only adding $3 million to the job program during a severe recession.

Liberal co-finance critic John Manley said more cash should be pumped into Challenge - and quickly.

"There are two barriers to post-secondary education," Manley said. "One is the absolute cost and the other is the inability of students to finance that cost. SEED should be addressing the second barrier."

Calling this year's announcement "a devastating hypocrisy," New Democratic Party youth critic Howard McCurdy blasted the Conservatives for claiming to support education while not creating programs that would enhance education, training and research.

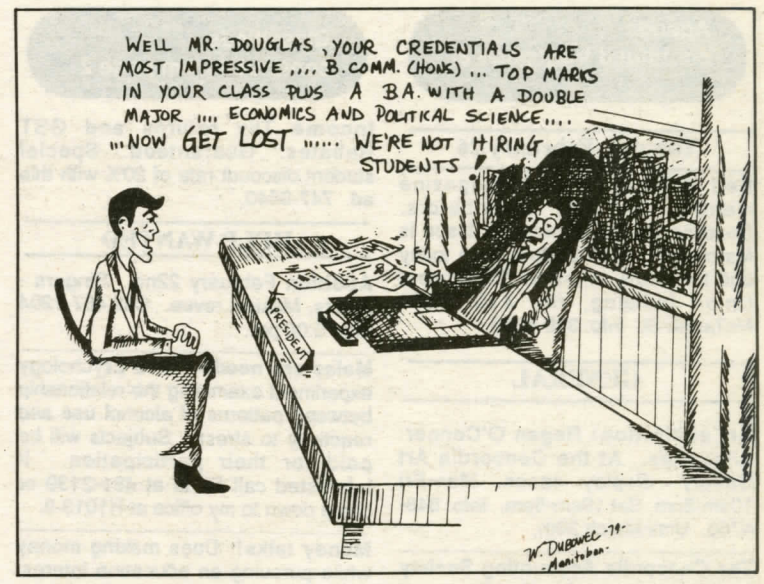
Danis didn't return phone calls last week, and his office said he would not be available for interviews about Challenge '91.

The Challenge budget has slowly eroded since the program was created by the Tories to help young Canadians find work in their fields. Critics have been questioning the effectiveness of the program and the junior ministers who oversee it since day one.

SEED helped create about 47,000 jobs last summer, down from a peak of 87,000 in 1985.

Jobs funded through SEED earned students an average of about $2,300 for a summer's work. On average hourly wages were about $5.73. CFS contrasts these figures to the amount needed to pay for a year in school, which it estimates to be between $8,000 and $10,000.

Sioufi said CFS is demanding a complete overhaul of the program, which hasn't been reviewed by the government since 1986.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High school students have been the federal government's job-creation focus since 1989, when they began channelling money towards stay-in-school programs. The government is pitting university and college students against those in high school, Sioufi said, adding that Challenge is less and less geared towards the needs of post-secondary students.

"What we have been asking for is a program specifically designed for post-secondary students, a program that would be career and study related," Sioufi said.

CFS is also asking that pay equity and affirmative action be implemented as part of Challenge. It notes that women earned an average of 50 cents less per hour than men under the SEED program in 1989, the last year for which statistics are available.

Government officials haven't been responsive so far, but Sioufi said CFS will be presenting a proposal for a completely new strategy to Danis this spring.

CORRECTIONS

The article entitled 'Come out, wherever you are' in the Feb. 12 issue was written by Peter Tyler. We apologize for this omission.

In the same issue, an article by Maya Bashour on page 3 quoted Charlene Nero as saying she blamed the Zeta Psi fraternity for producing the original posters. In fact, Nero blamed the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

CLARIFICATIONS

The article entitled 'Brown/Nero snap up CUSA elections' on page 3 of the Feb. 12 issue should have included the words "per credit" when referring to the $1.60 students pay to CUSA.

In a feature entitled 'Steering into a new direction' on page 11 of the Feb. 5 issue, Gail Shannon wrote that "there are 60 out of 90 Haitian drivers working for Métro-Montréal." In fact, 60 of Métro-Montréal's 90 drivers are Haitian.

The Link apologizes for any inconveniences.

UVic hosts Spicer Commission

by Sherryl Yeager

VICTORIA (CUP) — Land claims and aboriginal rights were the dominant topics of discussion when the Citizens' Forum on Canada's Future visited the University of Victoria Feb. 4.

But native student Sharon Bird said the forum was not the proper vehicle to use in addressing these problems.

"I really didn't feel any confidence in the process at all," said Bird, one of nine UVic panelists who spoke to the forum.

Known unofficially as the Spicer Commission, the forum is holding public meetings throughout the country to collect and focus people's views on Canada's future.

She said the Citizens' Forum "is being used as a tool for the politicians to quantify democracy. Now they can say they gave an opportunity for ordinary citizens to say what they thought."

Bird added that a forum where panelists address commissioners is not a proper method for approaching native issues.

"Rather than trying to assimilate native people and force them into (a non-native) system, Canadians should focus their energy on co-existence and how is it going to be accomplished," she said.

"Trying to force native people to work within the white system is like having a group of vegetarians who live in a house, (and) being approached by someone from the street who says 'I want the same lifestyle but I want to eat meat.'

"Canada is doing the same thing. The government is saying 'we have democracy and for you to have the same lifestyle you must have the same democracy.' Native people already have a system in place to make decisions in our communities."

Forum Commissioner Susan Van De Velde said in an interview that she had observed a "tremendous lack of understanding about native issues," in her cross-country travels with the forum.

"People don't know and aren't aware of the historical situation and are not prepared to discuss the issues," said Van De Velde.

She said this lack of knowledge extends to native students, who do not know enough historical information to defend themselves during forum meetings.

More information about native history is needed and the education curriculum should be adapted to present more than a Eurocentric view of North American history, Van De Velde said.

But Bird said one of the major problems with the education system is non-tribal people trying to interpret the behavior of native children.

"The teachers think a quiet child is not knowledgeable on the issues. One of the complaints of teachers is that native children don't speak out, so they don't know if they are comprehending."

This silence is due to the native custom of accepting what elders say and not questioning things until they are older, Bird said, adding that the mission schools many native children attended taught them not to question authority.

Van De Velde said last summer's Oka crisis brought the land claims issue to the foreground.

"The Canadian public is much more aware of the level of frustration native people are feeling. It's a simmering pot and one day the lid is going to blow," she said.

When the forum visited mixed native and non-native communities, racism and non-native concern over retaining land was much more evident, said Van De Velde.

"As a commissioner I've gotten a much deeper appreciation of native issues since I joined the forum. I am appalled and ashamed of the treatment natives have received over the years."

When the forum was first set up many native groups boycotted it.

Native leaders said a Royal Commission into the land claims issue had been promised by the federal government, and they felt the forum was an attempt to diffuse the issue.

According to Van De Velde, the forum was established merely to facilitate discussion at the grass-roots level. She said a commission will be held later, but native people are now taking an active role.

But Bird doesn't think the Royal Commission will ever be established.

"It is not in their economic interests to conduct an inquiry into land claims or aboriginal rights. There is enough evidence in the archives and history and other sources to prove the wrong-doings of the past.

"It is going to cost a lot of money, and they won't do it because of that," Bird said. "The alternative is to look for a process for co-existence."

Agenda continued from page 2

Tuesday, February 26

Red Herring Humour magazine meeting for new contributors. Deadline for this semester's issue is March 11th. 1:30-2:30pm, both today and tomorrow, in the McGill Student Union building, rm. 410, 3480 McTavish St. info: 398-6816.

GENERAL

Art exhibition: Regan O'Conner: Allegories. At the Concordia Art Gallery - display cases. Mon-Fri 10am-8pm, Sat 10am-5pm. Info: 848-4750. Until March 30th.

The Concordia Accounting Society is pleased to provide the document "University Guide to Accountancy," available free of charge at the Society offices in GM-211-12.

Québec-PIRG is seeking proposals for funding of public interest projects on such topics as the environment, health, transportation, women's issues, human rights, student issues, etc. Deadline for project proposal submissions is February 12, 5pm. For more info: 848-7585.

Rent-a-Hand is a service sponsored by the NDG Senior Citizens' Council which gives assistance to seniors living in NDG and Montréal West. Looking for workers to participate, doing odd jobs. Info: 487-1311.

Twenty something and interested in volunteer work? Shalom Line, a confidential, anonymous listening service, will be accepting new volunteers into their training program which starts in February. Care to listen to those who need to talk? Then please call Suzanne Herscovitch at 735-3541, ext. 3380.

Guidance Services Workshops: Students may sign up now in H-440 for the following workshops: Career and Educational Planning, Reading Efficiency, Time Management, Writing, Study Skills, Creative Job Search, Assertiveness Training, Exam Anxiety Reduction, Stress Management. Contact the Concordia Guidance Services at 848-3555.

The Lesbian and Gay Friends of Concordia have open discussions over coffee every Friday. These social occasions occur after the regular business meetings and are open to all members of the university community and beyond. Drop by the office at 2020 MacKay (P-Annex) around 4:30pm any Friday. Info: 848-7414.

What is really going on in Central America? Over 1/4 million people killed over the last ten years. The Concordia Central America Committee has meetings every second Friday at 5pm. All are welcome. Call 848-7410 for more info.

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Classifieds continued from page 2

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HELP WANTED

Audition February 22nd. Singers - Actors, Musical revue. Call 487-1204 after 5:00 pm.

Males are needed for a psychology experiment examining the relationship between patterns of alcohol use and reactivity to stress. Subjects will be paid for their participation. If interested call Dena at 481-2139 or come down to my office at H1013-9.

Money talks! Does making money while pursuing an education interest you? This could be the opportunity of your lifetime. Call for appointment. Gary (514) 932-5933 after 5pm.

The Hypnosis Laboratory of Concordia University is looking for participants for studies involving memory, imagery, and hypnosis. Those interested should contact the lab, Tues. 2-4pm or Thurs. 2-4pm at 848-2213. Volunteers will be paid for participation.

Caregiver req'd for disabled boy, 5 yrs., 20 hrs/wk, start May 1. Live-in plus stipend. Loyola area. References. 484-7676.

I would like to meet a person to improve my spoken English. J'aimerais recontrer une personne pour améliorer mon anglais parlé. Guy at 288-8775 or 670-8522.

Actors wanted! First year film student seeks male actors for 7 minute film. Call Peter at 521-5486.

Want to earn $200? If you own a truck or van and are available 1 day in March and you can do a small move to Toronto. I'll pay gas. Call 484-4582. Ask for Tracy or leave a message.

Managers wanted for M.L.M. opportunity. For more information call Michael @ 483-1359.

APARTMENTS

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For rent, now until mid-June (or for a shorter period) 41/2 apartment. Near Loyola on Monkland. Fully furnished and equipped, very comfortable (owner is on sabbatical). Price for students $360 per month. Nonsmoker preferred. No pets. Call Sue 489-5061 evenings.

Room available, May 1. Furnished, Loyola area, air cond. Suitable for serious academic. $300/mo. 484-7676.

Sublet, March 1, beautiful 41/2. Two balconies, parking: equipment, $425. 523-4758 Plateau, help!

Needed: One female roommate; mature, quiet pref. 25+ to share large 31/2 with philosophy major.

Roommate to share 51/2. NDG, close to Loyola. $180 p.m. All included. Call Christine, 481-6249.

Large room in apartment. Hardwood floors, 12ft. ceilings. Large steel and glass table optional (free). Central, clean. $165/mo. David 272-2236.

Share Apt. - Female, non-smoker. 41/2 near Loyola. $225.00 monthly. March 1991. Call Carol 484-7917.

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Electric guitar - Gibson Explorer 2. Excellent condition. Includes case, strap & cords. Asking $525, call Marc at 254-9643.

Lap-top computer for sale. Modem, programs, accessories, printer, etc. 845-9589.

For sale: 6 pirana approx 6" each, excellent shape and colour, breeding size. Need large aquarium. Leave message 738-3682.

Must sell: men's brown leather jacket, as new, $80. Sanyo tape deck, Brother electronic typewriter, etc. Call Judy, Mon.-Fri. at 848-2378.

Moving out on your own? I have all kinds of furniture for sale at very good prices! Table, couch, TV, etc. Call 484-4582 and ask for Tracy or leave a message.

For sale: Atari 1040 computer (keyboard, mouse, disks, instructions), $450 negotiable; Kodak slide projector (remote and instructions), $175; Business course (Real Estate), $35 937-2054.

LOST & FOUND

LOST: HP-485X calculator on Tues., Jan. 29 in H-920 or on 6th floor. Call Dan at 692-3749 anytime.

LOST! Two silver rings. If found, please call 483-5344. Reward offered.

Broach found in rm H-962. Leaf shaped, silver coloured. Left at Hall security desk.

Found: Sharp pocket calculator, on 4th floor, Hall building. Describe to Eric at 658-6927 after 6pm.

Found: Poetry in a Spanish class. Will be at the security desk.

Lost 16mm film! Did Bellevue-Pathé splice my film with yours? Darren the film student is now on my workprint but I need mine back! Any info, call Larissa 522-5164.

LOST: fur mitten in the Hall Building, 4th/5th floor on Jan. 10. Please call Evelyn at 637-0634 (work) or hand it in to Security. Sizeable reward!

PERSONALS

Darling Marc, I really do love you. Nalikutemwa sana. Thanks for being there for me and I could never wish for anyone else. I love you dearly. XXChingaXX

My Dear Chinga, I am madly in love with you! Will you be my Valentine? - Marc.

Male Student 32 (Gay) looking for new and exciting dudes to hang out and party with. Be under 35 and a hip dude, that's all it takes. I like punk (hardcore). Meeting great guys! Don't be shy, I want to hear from you. Matt 457-7012.

continued on page 6

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Fennario raises spirit of Lévesque from the dead

by Lynne Driscoll

Montreal playwright David Fennario has reincarnated the spirit of one of Québec's more intriguing personalities and politicos.

The Death of René Lévesque, his latest work, is a retrospective on the life of the controversial former leader of the Parti Québecois.

The setting for the drama takes place in a Montreal auditorium where the characters prepare to pay tribute to their leader, one year after his death.

Fennario charts the political triumphs and challenges of the PQ through six characters who represent a cross section of Québec society linked politically and personally to Lévesque.

Fennario uses his characters to illustrate the PQ's interaction with different interest groups: the party's relationship with unions is seen through the character of Gérald Martin; the business community through Jean-Louis Demers; the shallow bourgeoisie through Chantal Fortin; the idealogues through Jacques Beaubien and the disillusioned péquistes through Barbotte.

There is significant emphasis on Lévesque's love interest, Hélène Duval. She represents the passionate quality that fuelled Lévesque's vision - a fire he in turn instilled in those who surrounded him.

These character portrayals make the play more than a history lesson or biographical sketch. The characters address the audience directly creating an air of confidentiality in each conversation.

This intimacy, further enhanced by the virtual lack of interaction on stage between the characters, enables the audience to appreciate how these diverse personalities chose the PQ as the vehicle for their political expression.

The most outstanding character, Barbotte, breaks the convention and has free range of movement on the stage. This contrast allows him to move unimpeded and enhances his role as narrator, wandering minstrel and restless spirit.

Through his sardonic musical interludes on his guitar, Barbotte links the transitions of time and provides insight on the general tone of Québecois sentiment from the genesis of the party, to the death of Lévesque.

Most importantly, Barbotte embodies the spirit of René Lévesque in his responses to the other characters' recollections of the triumphs and challenges of Lévesque and his party. Barbotte endears himself to the audience as he adopts "ti poil's" own gestures, voice intonations, and vice of smoking.

This review would not be complete without both applauding the interpretation of David Fennario's play, and addressing the caustic review by *Le Devoir's* theater critic. In a front page article last Friday, Robert Lévesque not only expressed his strong dislike of the play, but showed no mercy for the anglophones in the audience.

Apparently, the public of the Centaur who hailed from Westmount, NDG and the West Island tried to join the proletariat when the house lights dimmed; somehow forgetting their credit cards, fur coats and their BMWs parked outside the Centaur Theatre.

Dear Mr. Robert Lévesque, lest we forget that it was the *pure laine* quebecois of the PQ who refused to fulfill the demands of the unions in 1979. As far as the fur coats are concerned, what do you think of when anyone mentions Tadoussac, Champlain, or *les coureurs de bois*?

And so, with apologies to Barbotte and Fennario, "...bonsoir Robert good luck, your review is all fucked up..."

As for the play, Robert Lévesque claims that none of the characters were identifiable in the history of the PQ. If this is true, then how does the *Le Devoir* critic explain the uncanny resemblance of Jean-Louis Demers to PQ minister Gerald Godin? The verisimilitude is unmistakable in the speech of Fennario's Demers, which is delivered verbatim, from the PQ executive in 1979.

If bullshit was a book, Robert Lévesque, you would be a library!

The Death of René Lévesque, is a play that gives an inside perspective on the development of the nationalist fervor behind the PQ. There is no doubt this play more than adequately tackles both the personal and political aspects of René Lévesque's life and of his dream of an independent Quebec.

The Death of René Lévesque will be at the Centaur until March 24th. 453 St. François Xavier. 288-3161.

Gallery Oboro is presenting the work of Linda Covit from February 16 to March 17. Vernissage this Saturday. 3981 St.Laurent #499. 844-3250.

Découvrir Jasper Johns

par Geneviève Hébert

J. J. est la griffe que l'on retrouve sur toutes les oeuvres présentées actuellement au Musée des Beaux Arts. La signature est celle de l'artiste Jasper Johns, et l'exposition est intitulée Symboles-impressions.

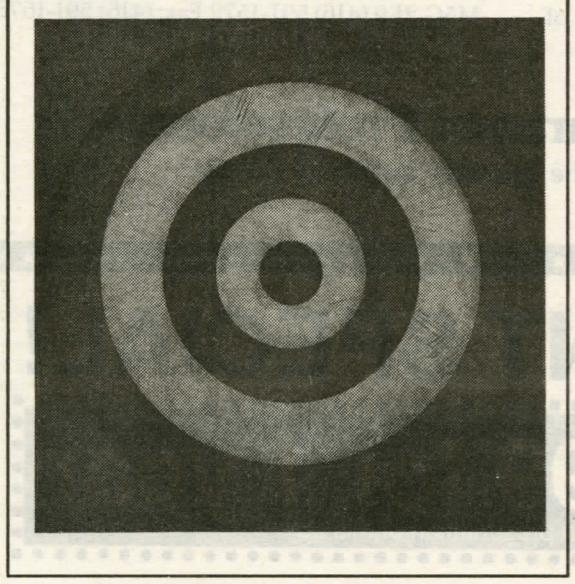
L'oeuvre complète de Jasper Johns est une expérience visuelle en soi. L'artiste se pose des questions et partage ses constatations avec le public. L'exposition nous invite activement à comparer des photographies de sculptures (réalité) avec leurs reproductions lithographiques (abstraction).

À expérimenter aussi, avec des trucs d'optique: en fixant un point dans une estampe pendant quelques secondes, on voit la même forme en d'autres couleurs, en regardant ailleurs.

Il s'agit en fait d'une rétrospective des oeuvres gravées de l'artiste, rétrospective couvrant une trentaine d'années (1960-1987). On a regroupé les 240 estampes en cinq sections représentant les divers ateliers dans lesquels l'artiste a travaillé.

On y retrouve des lithographies, des sérigraphies, des aquatintes, des gaufrures. Et si ces termes vous sont étrangers, vous n'apprendrez pas leur signification au Musée. On omet carrément de nous expliquer les procédés les plus utilisés par Johns.

Pourtant, cette exposition est très bien documentée en ce qui a trait aux idées et aux concepts de l'artiste. On nous explique, par exemple, son évolution dans la technique de la gravure.



Oeuvre de Jasper Johns.

À l'occasion, on dévoile ses intentions par un cours texte à côté des tableaux. C'est là que nous apprenons qu'un tableau est un hommage à Picasso, qu'il a une attitude assez ironique devant la critique, et que son plaisir est d'abord et avant tout, d'expérimenter.

Américain, né en 1930, Jasper Johns a été surnommé le "père du Pop Art" pour avoir été le premier à introduire des objets de tous les jours dans ses tableaux, des objets aussi élémentaires tels qu'une fourchette, une ampoule électrique, un ceintre, ou même un soulier — plus tard, on verra Andy Warhol prendre la tête du mouvement et voler la vedette.

Aujourd'hui, l'artiste veut élaborer sa technique. On peut donc voir beaucoup de dérivés d'un même concept à cette exposition - à titre d' exemple, la série *0-9* qui a déjà été présentée au début des années 60, reprise à la fin de la même décennie, et de nouveau présentée en 1975.

Au fil des années, Jasper Johns ajoute à ses oeuvres des traits de sa personnalité, à tel point que "son imagerie devient de plus en plus introspective, contenant de multiples références à sa personne et à son cadre de vie" (extrait du dossier de presse). La plus récente série, *Les Saisons* (1987), en témoigne justement.

Jasper Johns: symboles-impressions , jusqu'au 10 mars 1991 au Musée des Beaux-Arts. Étudiants (avec carte): 5$.

From the original long hair generation - Get back to Folk and the peace-n-love grooves with Shawn Phillips at Club Soda Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15th-16th. 5240 Avenue du Parc. 270-7848.

Razzmatazz Classic Jazz ! *The Count Basie Orchestra* under the direction of Frank Foster and singer Carmen Bradford will get you in the mood next Friday and Saturday, Feb. 15th-16th, at the Rising Sun. 5380 Boul. St-Laurent. 954-1221/278-5200.

Do you believe in value? Check this out. 3 perfomances for 8$ (9$ at doors) with the alternative scene's *Doughboys, Idées Noires* and *Change of Heart*. This will take place Saturday Feb. 16th at Foufounes Electriques. 87 Ste-Catherine E. 845-5484.

Black History month presentation - presented by the National Film Board Cinema at Complexe Guy-Favreau. *Black Mother, Black Daughter, Oreos With Attitude,* and *Tongues Untied* are some of the films that will be screened on Monday, Feb. 18th, at 7 and 9 pm. Refreshments will be served. 200 Boul. René Lévesque W. 283-4755

Theater treat - Tennessee Williams' *Camino Real* will be performed by the French section of the National Theatre School's graduating students from Feb.19 to 23 at 20h with a matinée at 13h30 on the 23rd at the Salle Andre-Page . Free! 360 Laurier East. 842-7954.

The How Do I Look? - presents *A Question of Documentary* from 16h to 18h on Monday, Feb.25. It is part of a series showing films and videos made by women in the Communications Studies Program over the past few years. Room 209, Bryan Bldg. 7141 Sherbrooke W. 848-2548/845-3634

Classifieds
continued from page 4

Johnathan: For Valentine"s I want your heart, and your head, on a platter, you fucking asshole. You know why. Don't think I'm crying my eyes out, I just don't want you to continue breathing the air with any other life on the planet. Don't worry, you won't have to wait for very long.-S.

For a loyal reader (who always catches every mistake) - I was just curious, do you read the classifieds too? See you today or is that tomorrow?

Embezzlement

continued from page 1

telling her she could fill the position.

"I saw him the first day I came in, but he was in a hurry to leave for Toronto," Keough said. "After that, we really didn't hear from him for six weeks. He abandoned all responsibilities."

Eight remaining GSA members voted to impeach Mohammed last Dec. 20 in an executive council meeting.

Keough said she later learned the Commerce Graduate Students' Association (CGSA) was always willing to pay its fees.

CGSA president Sherrie Berbusco said money was set aside for the fees in September.

"We were ready to transfer the money over to the GSA, but nothing could be arranged. Communications with Ansar were not too good," Berbusco said.

"Ansar also had put up signs everywhere at the GSA forbidding commerce students to come in and use the place."

Air quality

continued from page 1

ity report from a group independent from the task force, including Susan Magor, co-ordinator of environmental health and safety, Yves Gilbert, Physical Plant operations manager, and Robert Bigelow, Dean of Fine Arts. The group has been working for the past two years to solve ventilation problems at the VA building.

Magor said the report is like "a shopping list" of problems and priorities, but would not elaborate on its content.

"There are so many priorities," Magor said. "The university does not have money to do something of this magnitude."

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Sportsbeat

Zerbe steps down

by Steve Wharry

In a surprising move Monday, Louisa Zerbe, head coach of the Concordia women's basketball team announced her intention to resign at the end of the season.

Zerbe would not say exactly why she is resigning, only that she prefers to wait until the season ends to tell her story.

"I'm not leaving because my players lack confidence in me or because I lack confidence in myself," said Zerbe.

"Sometimes you have to take a stand even if it means stopping your career."

The Stingers have been struggling through a nightmare of a season with a record of 1-6 and Zerbe's league record for her four years at Concordia now stands at 5 wins against 42 losses.

Zerbe stressed, however, that her decision to leave had nothing to do with losing or how she feels about the team.

"I have great respect for this team and I'm not tired of coaching the players, but I am tired of some other things that surround coaching," said Zerbe.

Athletic Director, Bob Philip expressed his shock at Zerbe's decision and stressed that the coach was under no pressure to surrender control of the team from his office.

"We were going to look into the women's basketball program at the end of the season and assess it's status, but we didn't ask Louisa to resign," said Philip.

Philip also said that while there was no direct pressure from the athletic department, playing in the shadow of the national champion men's team would make any coach's job more difficult.

"Louisa helped bring this team back when we hadn't won a game in four years, but sharing the gym with consistent winners makes the pressure to win all the more intensive," said Philip.

Concordia Sports Information Director Mike Hickey would be the leading candidate to replace Zerbe.

Hickey started his coaching career at Sir George Williams in 1974 and helped the Georgians gain a wild-card berth in the men's national championship tournament.

Hickey coached women's basketball at Concordia for 9 years and led the squad to a 4th place national ranking in 1985.

Along with his years at Concordia, Hickey has also been an assistant coach with both the men's and women's national teams. Hickey worked with the men's team from 1980-84 and then moved on to be an assistant coach on the women's team for four years until 1988.

Hickey told the Link that he is presently negotiating with the Athletics Department about taking over.

"I have to decide if it's in my interest, as well as the interests of my family to take the job," said Hickey. "Right now I have to say that it is something that I am interested in doing."

Hickey also said that he was surprised when he learned that Zerbe had decided to leave but wouldn't comment the coach's decision, or her performance as head coach of the Stingers.

"I know Louisa came into a decimated program when she arrived, but evaluating coaches isn't my job so it isn't my place to comment on her abilities as a coach," said Hickey.

Women's basketball coach Louisa Zerbe is stepping down after four tough seasons with the Stingers. In her stint at Concordia, Zerbe compiled a 5-42 league record.

Curling at Con U

by Steve McCormack

A group of music students at Concordia is looking for people interested in curling Sunday's at the measley cost of two or three dollars for two hours.

Steve Lush, who started the club at Concordia, is willing to give free lessons to beginners at the Montreal West Curling Club located near the Loyola Campus. After that the cost would be $2-3 for two hours.

Lush would like to compete against other schools in the province and eventually form a league such as those that exist in the West, Ontario and the Atlantic provinces.

There was a curling league in the early '70s but schools started dropping out and the league collapsed. According to Bernard Gagnon who is in charge of university athletics at the Fédération Québecoise du Sport Etudiant, there hasn't been a demand for a league as yet.

"Since the curling league in Quebec ended in the early '70s nobody has requested that we start up a new league," he said. "If the interest is present in at least four or five schools in the province then we'll look into it."

The sports department at Concordia has already given $200 to the students to pay for facilities at the curling club. But Bob Philip, athletics director at Concordia, said no money has been allocated for curling this year.

"In the next two weeks, we'll be planning our budget for next year and if people are interested in starting a curling club at Concordia we'll be happy to include such a team into our budget."

Philip also suggested that if a good recreational league is established at Concordia next year, the possiblility of hosting a tournament could probably spark interest in the province and eventually give another try to curling in Quebec universities.

For Lush who has been curling for eight years, the bottom line is having fun. He hopes the competition aspect of curling won't scare people away.

"We just want to have fun. Everyone who's come out so far has come back and are really having fun," he said. "Those who didn't know the first thing about curling a couple of weeks ago have continued to come and are starting to really know the game."

Those who are interested in joining the curling club can show up at the Montreal West Curling Club at 17 Ainsley Road, two streets south of Sherbrooke just off Westminster, Sunday afternoons at one o'clock.

Stinger gets shot at pros

Vadja goes for big time

by Francois Amyot

Concordia's star offensive lineman Paul Vajda returned from the East-West Shrine Bowl (U.S. college football all-star game) with a smile on his face.

He played mostly in the first half and felt he contributed to two impressive drives.

"I went on only twice, but every time I was on the field, we scored. I felt good about it," Vadja said.

Three National Football League (NFL) scouts from the Giants, the Jets and the horrible Patriots approached him. Among them, the Patriots showed the most interest in Paul. Not surprisingly, the team with the worst record in the NFL has many spots to fill.

The Stingers' lineman is realistic about his chances of being drafted by an NFL team. He doesn't want to see his hopes wiped out.

"I did pretty well (at the Shrine Bowl). (If I'm not drafted), I may go to a try out as a free agent," he added.

He also went to the Canadian Football League (CFL) evaluation camp with four teammates: offensive linemen Paul Maines, Jacques Moreau Jr, defensive back and kick return specialist, John Deleggi, and quaterback Ron Aboud.

As an offensive lineman, Paul had to bench press 225 pounds as many times as he could, and sprint 40 yards. One on one (with a defensive lineman) and tackling dummies drills were also used to test his agility.

"I talked to two of those (CFL teams). The Toronto (Argos) and the Ottawa (Rough Riders) seemed the most interested. Winnipeg (Blue Bombers) is curious (too)," he said. The Edmonton Eskimos also have Vajda in the back of their minds. He doesn't know where he's going to end up but he thinks he should be drafted by a CFL team.

Vajda heard too late about the Montreal Machine evaluation camp.

"They wanted to invite us (five Stingers who went to the CFL camp), but the coach (Pat Sheehan) made the decision for us. He didn't tell me," he said.

Running backs Jean-Francois Heroux (who's currently playing in France) and Nigel Smith are also eligible for the CFL draft.

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DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION
is
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or drop-by the Link's offices (Hall 649) if you'd like to help out on the issue **(no experience necessary).** For more info. call 848-7405

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